GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4807
ANSWERED ON:23.04.2003
PAK`S TERRORIST DESIGNS IN KASHMIR
DALPAT SINGH PARASTE;GADDE RAMAMOHAN;M.V.V.S MURTHI;MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the U. S. and the U.K. administrations have condemned the massacre in Kashmir as reported in the Hindu dated March 29, 2003;

(b) if so, whether the importance of ceasefire between India and Pakistan has been underlined by them; and

(c) the details of the proposals put forward by the two countries for resolving the Indo-Pak issue?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH)

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) A Joint United States-United Kingdom statement issued on 27 March 2003 stated,inter alia, that, `the LOC should be strictly respected and Pakistan should fulfil its commitments to stop infiltration across it. Pakistan should also do its utmost to discourage any acts of violence by militants in Kashmir. Both sides should consider immediately implementing a ceasefire and taking other active steps to reduce tension including by moves within the SAARC context. The differences between India and Pakistan can only be resolved through peaceful means and engagement`.